

theWill

December 2018 | Monthly Newsletter of God's Will Christian Church

Mark Your Calendar

Service Time: 10AM

12.14

Ordination Service: 7PM

12.31

**New Year's Eve Service
10PM -12AM**

**Happy Birthday to those
born in December**

**Interested in becoming a
member? Please see
Sis. Vanessa Hawkins!**

Laugh With Immanuel

By Mary Fairchild

"The implications of the name 'Immanuel' are both comforting and unsettling. Comforting, because He has come to share the danger as well as the drudgery of our everyday lives. He desires to weep with us and to wipe away our tears. And what seems most bizarre, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, longs to share in and to be the source of the laughter and the joy we all too rarely know."- Michael Card

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel' - which means, "God with us.'" (Matthew 1:22-23, NIV)

Why do we turn to God so quickly in times of sorrow and struggle, in danger and fear, and forget him in the times of joy and rejoicing? If God is the giver of joy and he is "God with us," then he must want to share in those moments of great joy, and even in those times of silly laughter and fun.

Member's Corner



This month, we shine the spotlight on Brother Gerald Chan.

Who introduced you to Christ?

I was introduced to Christ by my Mom when I was a young child. She always had me and my brothers in church and learning the bible.

When did you join GWCC?

I joined the GWCC family and body of Christ about 4 years ago.

What do you do for a living?

I have a delivery business, a car dealer license and I am an auto mechanic.

What ministries do you participate in?

I'm currently an usher and a altar worker. But you can catch me stepping up and helping out with whatever.

What are your hobbies?

I'm a workaholic...LOL. So I will say working is my hobby since it seems like that's the only thing I'm ever doing. I work on cars mainly.

What have you found most rewarding about being a member of GWCC?

That we're a family not just a Church. At any given time we can reach out to one another or count on each other for anything or just for prayer.

What advice would you give a new Christian?

The Power of Prayer is real! Just never lose faith and continue to stay in the word.

Recipe Corner: *Baked Biscuit Wreath Dip*

INGREDIENTS

- 1 can refrigerated biscuits (such as Pillsbury)
- Olive oil, for brushing biscuits
- 1/2 c. plus 1 Tbsp. crumbled Parmesan
- 2 c. shredded mozzarella
- 1 c. ricotta
- 3/4 c. frozen spinach, defrosted and chopped
- 1/4 c. mayonnaise
- 2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- Crushed red pepper flakes, for garnish

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Halve biscuits and flatten each one out, then roll into a ball and place in an oven-proof skillet seam side down. Arrange in a ring around the skillet. Brush biscuits with olive oil and sprinkle with 1 tablespoon Parmesan.
2. In a large bowl, combine mozzarella, ricotta, spinach, Parmesan, mayonnaise, garlic powder, and salt and mix until combined.
3. Spoon dip into center of skillet and sprinkle with red pepper flakes.
4. Bake until warmed through, bubbly, and golden, 25 to 30 minutes. Serve hot.

Our Daily Bread

Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me. Psalm 50:15

The doctor wasn't frowning, despite talking to my husband about his recent cancer diagnosis. Smiling, she offered a suggestion: start each day by giving thanks. "For at least three things," the doctor said. Dan agreed, knowing that gratitude opens our hearts to find encouragement in God's goodness. Thus, Dan starts each day with words of praise. *Thank You, God, for a good night's sleep. For my clean bed. For sunshine. For breakfast on the table. For a smile on my lips.*

Each word is heartfelt. But could it sound trivial? Does our praise in life's small details matter to Almighty God? In Psalm 50, David's chief musician, Asaph, offers a clear answer. God has "no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens" (v. 9).

Instead of these once-formal Israelite sacrifices of gratitude, God wants His people to give Him our hearts and lives in gratitude (vv. 14, 23).

As my husband experienced, whole-hearted gratitude helps our spirits flourish. Then when we call on the Lord "in the day of trouble," He will "deliver" us (v. 15). Does this mean Dan will be healed, spiritually and physically, during his two-year treatment? Or not until after this lifetime? We don't know. But for now, Dan delights in showing God he's grateful for His love, and for who God is: Redeemer. Healer. Friend. And friends delight to hear these beautiful words: Thank You.

Weekly Activities

Morning Prayer Conference Call

Daily 7:00AM

Weekly Bible Study Conference Call

Wednesday 7:00-8:00p

Men's Bible Study Conference Call

Tuesday 7:00-8:00pm

Conference Number:

712-775-7031 Access Code: 443-268-839

Women's Bible Study Conference Call

Monday 7:30-8:30pm